

Praying God's Word Out Loud for Intimacy, Revelation, and Breakthrough

I would like to share why I pray the Bible out loud every day, and how and who introduced me to this method. (Share my testimony)

Praying the Scriptures out loud is not new. The Jewish people have prayed Scripture out loud for thousands of years. As early as the 2nd century, the church developed prayers based upon Scripture. The "Desert Fathers" prayed the Scriptures out loud as early as the 3rd century. In the 6th Century, the Celtic Church developed prayer books based upon the Psalms that they would pray out loud. In the days of the Reformation, the Protestant Church developed a Common Book of Prayer. Since then, virtually every branch of the Church has used various Scripture based prayer books for use in verbal prayer.

Why should we pray the Bible?

Dick Eastman, founder of Every Home for Christ, suggests that intimacy with God in prayer conceives and births blessings and victories. Revelations are blessings, and breakthroughs are victories, therefore...

We pray the Bible for intimacy, revelation, and breakthrough, which we will experience as we pray.

We pray the Bible for answered prayers. We are told in I John 5:14-15 that "this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him." To pray "according to His will" is to pray His Word... as His will is spelled WORD!

We pray the Bible because II Timothy 3:16 tells us that ALL Scripture is "God-breathed" (NIV). All Scripture is "breathed out by God" (ESV) Greek: divinely breathed in; root = to breathe or blow. So all Scripture has God's breath in It; God inspired; God infused; God empowered. As we see with Adam, God's breath brings forth life... God's Word brings forth life. So, as we pray the Bible over people, situations and regions, we are declaring LIFE into those people, situations and places.

More reasons from the New Testament:

The Greek word for "WORD" used 164 out of 186 times is "Logos" and most often it is used in the context of "God's Word".

I Peter 1:23-25; ...through the living and enduring word of God... [that] stands forever. (NIV)

Matthew 24:35; Heaven and earth will pass away, but My Word will by means pass away.

Hebrews 4:12; For the word of God is living [Gk: live, life] and powerful [Gk: energy, active, effective]

John 1:1, 14; In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. V14 And the Word became flesh... (Word = Logos all four times)

John 17:17; Thy Word is Truth (praying the Word over people/situations, you are declaring TRUTH)

James 1:22-25; But be doers of the word... [one way is by praying the Word]

II Tim 3:15; ...from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise...

Matthew 4:3-11; Jesus confronted the devil's three accusations with the Word of God; "It is written"!

Old Testament reasons to pray God's Word:

Isaiah 55:10-11; ...*So shall My word* be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. [emphasis mine]

Isaiah 44:24; I am the Lord...Who confirms *the word* of His servant... [emphasis mine]

Jeremiah 1:12; I am watching over *My word* to perform it. (ESV) [emphasis mine]

Jeremiah 29:10; ... I will visit you and perform *My good Word* toward you... [emphasis mine]

Jeremiah 32:24; What *You [God] have spoken* has happened; [emphasis mine]

Ezekiel 12:25; For I am the Lord. I speak, and *the word which I speak* will come to pass... I will say *the word* and perform it. [emphasis mine]

Psalms 19:7-8; "The Word" [Law, Testimony, Statutes, Commandment] of the Lord is perfect... converting the soul... making wise the simple... rejoicing the heart... enlightening the eyes (clarity, understanding, revelation); [emphasis mine] (Wow, who wouldn't want to pray the Bible)

Psalms 119:1 Says we are blessed if you keep His word; (v9) His Word will cleanse our way; (v11) His word can keep us from sinning; (v16, 24) His word will delight us; (v24) His word counsels us; (v25) His word will revive us; (v28) His word strengthens us; (v42) we have answers in His Word; (v49, 50, 81) we have comfort and hope in His word; (v50) His word gives us life; (v89) His word is settled in heaven; (v98) His word will make us wiser than our enemies; (v103) His word is sweeter than honey; (v104) His word gives us understanding; (v105) His word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path; (v111) His word rejoices our hearts; (v130) His word is light and gives understanding; (v133) His word directs our steps; (v156) His word revives us; (v160) His word is truth; (v165) His word gives us peace.

Why should we pray out loud?

God did not “think” the world into existence, He “spoke”! (Gen 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24 & 26). Words are powerful (Matt 12:36-37). ...life is in the power of the tongue (Prov 18:21). I “cry out” to God...who fulfills His purpose for me (Ps 57:2). 17 times in the Psalms, we are instructed to “shout” as in “...shout joyfully to Him with psalms” (Ps 95:2b). On the practical side: It helps to keep our mind from wandering, and when it does, we are aware of it. Hearing our own voice helps to keep us focused. It is more exciting praying out loud than praying silently in our mind because our heart, mind, soul, and body are much more involved and more responsive when we pray out loud. It is much easier praying for extended periods of time praying out loud. Praying out loud for an hour or so is not a drudgery, it is a delight. By praying out loud, we get to hear our heart (Matt 12:34) praying to God and it is more emotional, personal and intimate. Let me ask a question: Would our spouse or friend rather have us just think loving thoughts about them...or would they prefer to HEAR us tell them out loud?

Here are a few more examples of “crying out” loud unto the Lord:

(Cry, Cry out, Call: Hebrew- “qara” (kaw-raw) To call out to someone; cry out; to address someone, to shout. Qara often describes calling out loudly in an attempt to get someone’s attention. Another Hebrew word for cry is shava (shaw-vah) which means cry aloud, shout. Yet another word for cry is rinnah (rin-naw) meaning creaking, shout, cry, proclamation, rejoicing, shouting, singing. You get the idea)

Ps 18:6; In my distress I called upon the Lord and cried out to my God

Ps 34:17; The righteous cry out and the Lord hears...

Ps 47:1, 5; ...shout to God with the voice of triumph (rua (roo-ah) ear splitting shout for joy) (66:1; 98:4)

Ps 55:14-17; As for me, I will call upon God...I will pray, and cry aloud, and He shall hear my voice...

Ps 56:9; When I cry out to you...

Ps 57:2; I will cry out to God...who performs all things for me

Ps 88:13; But to you I have cried out, O Lord, and in the morning my prayer comes before you.

Ps 107:6-30; Then they cried out to the Lord... and the Lord answered them

Ps 119:145-147; I cry out with my whole heart, Hear me O Lord...

Ps 142:1-2; I cry out to the Lord with my voice...I pour out my complaint to Him;

Ps 145:18-19; The Lord is near to all who call upon Him...He will hear their cry and save them.

How should we pray the Scripture out loud?

We learn by practice and we teach by example... so we PRAY! We open the Bible and pray the Scripture out loud. We “pour out” our heart to the Lord as in...

Lam 2:19; ...pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord

Ps 62:8; Pour out your heart before Him...

I Samuel 1:15; I...have poured out my soul before the Lord.

Ps 42:4; ...I pour out my soul within me.

(Strong's; Hebrew, “pour out” = spill forth; gush out)

Now it's time to Pray: A good place to start is praying the Psalms as they were written as prayers & songs, thus easier to flow with as God gives us revelation and people, situations and things to pray for.

Trust and not be ashamed:

Ps 4:5; (we are told to) put your trust in the Lord.

Ps 5:11; But let all those rejoice who put their trust in the You;

Ps 22: 4-5; They trusted and you delivered them...they trusted in you and were not ashamed

Ps 25:2-3; I trust in You; let me not be put to shame...

Ps 25: 20; Let me not be ashamed for I put my trust in You

Ps 28:7; My heart trust in Him and I am helped...

Ps 31:1, 17; In You I put my trust: Let me never be ashamed;
Ps 32:10; But he who trust in the Lord, Mercy shall surround him
Ps 33:16-21; No king is saved by the multitude of an army...
Ps 40:4; ...blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust
Ps 56:3-4; Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You...
Ps 71:1; In You O Lord I put my trust; let me never be put to shame
Ps 84: 12; ...blessed is the man who trusts in You.
Ps 118:8-9; It is better to trust in the Lord, than to put confidence in man...
Ps 125: 1; Those who trust in the Lord... [shall] not be moved...

Guide/teach/instruct:

Ps 25:4-5, 9, 12; Show me Your ways...teach me your paths...lead me and teach me
Ps 27:11; Teach me your way and lead me in a smooth path...
Ps 31:3;lead me and guide me...
Ps 32:8; I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with my eye
Ps 48:14; ...He will be our guide...
Ps 94:12; Blessed is the man whom you instruct...and teach...
Ps 139:10; ...your right hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.
Ps 143:8-11; ...cause me to know the way...teach me...lead me...revive me...

Repentance:

Ps 32:1-5; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
Ps 51:1-12, 17; Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Ps 65:3; ...as for my transgressions, You will provide atonement for them.
Ps 85:2; You have forgiven... You have covered all their sin.

Ps 130:3-4; If you Lord should mark iniquities, who could stand, but there is forgiveness with You!

Ps 136:1-26; ...His mercy [grace] endures forever.

Examine me:

Ps 17:3; You have tested me...You have visited me...You have tried me...

Ps 19:12-14; Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. (v12)

Ps 26:2; Examine me...prove me...try my mind and my heart

Ps 69:5-6; You know my foolishness; my sins are not hidden from you.

Ps 139:1-2, 23-24; Search me; know my heart; try me & know my anxious thoughts...

He loves me; He is for me:

Ps 18:19; He delights in me

Ps 41:11-12; By this I know that You are well pleased with me...and set me before Your face forever

Ps 45:11; So the King will greatly desire your beauty, because He is your Lord, worship Him.

Ps 56:9; ...this I know, because God is FOR ME.

Ps 69:16; ...Your lovingkindness is good...according to the multitude of your tender mercies.

Ps 118:6-7; The Lord is on my side...the Lord is for me!!!

Ps 124:2; ...the Lord was on our side...

Ps 139:17-18; How precious are your thoughts to me...if I count them they would be more than the sand

Ps 149:4; For the Lord takes pleasure in His people [you and me]...

Come unto His presence:

Ps 20:2; May He send help from the sanctuary...

Ps 21:6b; You have made him exceedingly glad with your presence...

Ps 26:8; ...I have loved the habitation [presence] of your house, the place where your glory dwells

Ps 27:4; One thing I have desired of the LORD, that will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord

Ps 27:8; When You said, "Seek My face," My heart said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek."

Ps 31:20; You shall hide them in the secret place of Your presence...

Ps 42:5; 11; ...I shall yet praise Him for the help of His countenance [in His presence is help]

Ps 84:2-3; My soul longs, even faints for the courts of the Lord...

Ps 84:10; ...for a day in your courts is better than a thousand...

Ps 43:3-4; ...bring me to You holy hill and to Your tabernacle [Your presence]

Ps 45:15; With gladness and rejoicing they shall be brought, they shall enter the Kings palace [presence]

Ps 61:4; I will abide in Your tabernacle [presence] forever...

Ps 63:1; ...Early I will seek You, my soul thirsts for You, my flesh longs for You...

Ps 65:4; Blessed is the man You chose and cause to approach You, that he may dwell in Your courts.

Ps 84:1-4; How lovely is your presence...my soul longs...faints for the presence of the Lord...

Ps 91:1; He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High...

Ps 95: 1, 2; ...come before His presence...

Ps 100:2; Come before His presence

Ps 140:13; The upright shall dwell in Your presence.

He hears and answers:

Ps 3:4; I cried to the Lord with my voice, and He heard me from His holy hill.

Ps 55:16-17; ...I will pray and cry aloud, and He shall hear my voice...

Ps 65:2; O You who hear prayer...

Ps 66:19; ...God has heard me; He has attended to the voice of my prayer.

Ps 99:6; ...They called upon the Lord, and He answered them.

Ps 102:1-2; Hear my prayer...and let my cry come to You... In the day that I call, answer me speedily

Ps 107:6-30; Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble and He delivered them out of their distress

Ps 116:1; I love the Lord, because He has heard my voice and my supplications...

Ps 118:5; In my anguish I cried to the Lord, and He answered me by setting me free (NIV)

Revelation:

Ps 25: 14; ...the secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him...

Ps 73:16-17; When I thought how to understand this...until I went into the sanctuary [His presence]

Ps 112:4; Unto the upright there arises light [clarity, revelation, awareness, understanding] in darkness [chaos, confusion, unknown's, chatter]. (In the darkness, there arises a light) (see also John 1:5; 8:12)

Ps 118:27 God is the Lord, and He has given us light [clarity, revelation, awareness, and understanding]

Ps 119:18; Open my eyes, that I may see [revelation, understanding] wondrous things from your [Word].

Ps 119:130; The entrance of Your Words give light [direction, clarity, revelation, understanding]

Delivers:

Ps 31:2; ...deliver me speedily

Ps 50:15; Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me

Ps 54:6-7; ...I will praise Your name...for He has delivered me out of all trouble...

Ps 59:1-2; Deliver me from my enemies...defend me from those who rise up against me. Deliver me...

Ps 70:5; You are my help and my deliverer;

Ps 91:14-15; Because he has set his love upon me, therefore I will deliver him;

Ps 116:4, 16; ...I implore you, deliver my soul... You have loosened my bonds

Healing:

Ps 6:2; ...I am weak; O Lord, heal me...

Ps 30:2; O LORD my God, I cried out to You, and You healed me.

Ps 103:3; Who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases.

Ps 107:20; He sent His word and healed them...

Ps 147:3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Warfare:

Ps 18:1-50; ...You have armed me with strength for the battle (v39)

Ps 60:12; ...for it is He who shall tread down our enemies.

Ps 91:1-16; For He shall give His angels charge over you... (v11)

Ps 110:1-2 ...till I make your enemies your footstool... Rule in the mist of your enemies.

Ps 118:10-17; For in the name of the Lord I will destroy them. (v12b)

Ps 138:3; ...I cried out to you...and you made me bold and stouthearted. (NIV)

Ps 140: 1-13; ...You have covered my head in the day of battle. (v7)

Ps 141:9; Keep me from the snares...the traps of the workers of iniquity. (see I Tim 3:7 + II Tim 5:14)

Ps 144:1-15; Blessed be the Lord my Rock, who trains my hand for war, my fingers for battle. (v1)

Ps 149:5-9; Let the high praise of God be in their month, and a two-edged sword in their hand... (v6)

Poor/injustice:

Ps 9:9, 12, 18 The Lord also will be a refuge for the oppressed... (v9)

Ps 10:12, 14, 17-18; ...to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed... (v18)

Ps 12:5; For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now I will arise, says the Lord;

Ps 34:18; The Lord heals the broken hearted...saves the crushed in spirit.

Ps 68:5; A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows...

Ps 69:33; ...the Lord hears the poor

Ps 70:5; But I am poor and needy, make haste to me

Ps 72:2; He will judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

Ps 72:4; He will bring justice to the poor...save the children of the needy, break in pieces the oppressor

Ps 72:12-14; He will deliver the needy when he cries, the poor and him who has no helper...

Ps 82:3-4; Defend the poor and fatherless; do justice to the afflicted and needy...

Ps 102:17; He shall regard the prayer of the destitute, and shall not despise their prayer.

Ps 109:31 ...He shall stand at the right hand of the poor...

Ps 113:7-8; He raises the poor...and lifts the needy out of the ash heap.

Ps 138:6; ...He regards the lowly, but the proud He knows from afar.

Ps 140:12-13; ...the Lord will maintain the cause of the afflicted, and justice to the poor.

Ps 146:7-9; Who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who gives freedom to the prisoners...the Lord watches over the strangers ...He relieves the fatherless and widow...

Ps 147:2-3 He gathers together the outcasts...He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

(This is a beginning; it will start you praying the Scriptures out loud every day for intimacy, revelation, and breakthrough)

(Scriptures: NKJV, unless otherwise noted)

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