

HELP FROM ABOVE

How to ask God for help

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One day a father saw his little son working in the field. The son had been working for hours trying to move a large stone. By this time the boy was very tired and about to give up. His father asked him, "What are you doing son?". The boy answered, "I'm trying to move this stone for you, so you can plant here. But it's just too big. I can't move it". The father asked, "Son have you done all you could to move it?" "Yes father", said the boy. "Are you sure?" "Yes, the boy responded". Then the father gently said, "There is one thing you haven't done yet. You haven't asked me for help".

How many times have we done that as Christians? We are faced with a big problem. We try to handle it ourselves and only end up tired and feeling like giving up. Sometimes the problems we face seem as big as mountains and impossible for us to move. Sometimes we may even give up before trying anything. We tell ourselves things like . . .

" I can't do anything about it"

" It wasn't meant for me to succeed"

“I'm just not fortunate like some others”

“This is the way my life is and I can't do anything to change that”

“ I don't know anyone in a high enough position to help me”

“ I am forgotten “

These are the lies that Satan wants us to believe. John 8:44 says that Satan is a liar and the father of all lies.

The truth is that we are not powerless or helpless. And when problems come into our lives, we are not alone. Jesus promises, in Hebrews 13:5, “I will never abandon you”. The truth is that all Christians know someone with a high enough position to offer help. In fact, Jesus wants to do more than we can imagine. Ephesians 3:20 says, “His power working in us is able to do so much more than we can ever ask for, or even think of.” Jeremiah 32:27 says, “ I am the LORD, the God of all people. Nothing is too difficult for me”. He even invites us to boldly ask for help. Hebrews 4:16 says, “So whenever we are in need, we should come bravely before the throne of our merciful God. There we will be treated with undeserved kindness, and we will find help”.

God wants us to bravely ask for help. And He wants us to ask with the right motive (or reason for asking). If we ask selfishly, we shouldn't expect to receive anything. James 4:3 talks about this problem: “Yet even when you pray, your prayers are not answered, because you pray just for selfish reasons”. Someone once said, “ We should pray for our needs not our greeds”.

Finally, when we ask for God's help, we should always ask according to His will. 1 John 5:14 says, “This is the boldness which we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He listens to us”. We should be asking for things that please God, things that He says in the Bible are good and right. Remember the story of the boy trying to move the large stone? The boy was trying to move it for his father. God is our heavenly father. He wants us to love and serve Him. He wants us to ask for the help we need in order to follow His will. He wants us to be His unselfish sons and daughters.