

Series: Striving Together in Prayer

# PLEASING IN HIS SIGHT

## 1 JOHN 3

Text: 1 John 3:22

### **1 John 3:22**

<sup>22</sup> *And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.*

Introduction:

As we continue this series I want us to see the key to seeing our maturity in our pray life mature in aligning our prays within God's will and our prayers being answered.

Note:

## **1. THE KEY**

### **1 John 3:22**

<sup>22</sup> *And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.*

The key is obedience

Faith and obedience go hand in hand.

Why is obedience the key?

Because:

#### A. Obedience Promotes Godliness

The word “promote” means to:

1. to help or encourage to exist or flourish; further

The secret to answered prayer is obedience.

Quote:

Faith and obedience are bound up in the same bundle. He that obeys God trusts God and he that thrusts God, obeys God. – Spurgeon

God will only grant our requests when we obey Him and live godly lives.

Every parent knows that to grant the request of a rebellious child will only encourage more rebellion and render it impossible to enjoy harmony in the home. God will give us “whatsoever we ask” if we keep his commandments.

This implies that we have:

- Complete Fellowship With God

**John 15:7**

*<sup>7</sup> If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.*

- Complete Surrender To the Will of God

**John 14:13-14**

*<sup>13</sup> And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.*

Not only does obedience promote godliness but also:

**B. Obedience Please God**

**1 John 3:22**

*<sup>22</sup> And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.*

The work pleasing means to be agreeable.

Pleasing God means that we agree with God.

Our motive and desire must always to please Him in all things.

Note not only “The Key” but also:

## 2. THE KEEPING (1 JOHN 3:23)

### **1 John 3:23**

<sup>23</sup> *And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.*

Note we have:

#### A. A Commandment to Believe

Everywhere you look in scripture you will see that faith in God is essential to successful prayer.

### **Hebrews 11:6**

<sup>6</sup> *But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*

We also have:

#### B. A Commandment to Follow

Truly believing in Jesus means that we love others.

### **John 13:34**

<sup>34</sup> *A new commandment I give unto you, **That ye love one another**; as I have loved you, **that ye also love one another**.*

We are able to love others because:

**Romans 5:5**

<sup>5</sup> *And hope maketh not ashamed; because **the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts** by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.*

Note not only the Key and the Keeping but also:

### **3. THE KNOWLEDGE**

**1 John 3:24**

<sup>24</sup> *And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And **hereby we know** that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.*

Note:

A. The Focus

Note the words dwelleth in Him and He in him.

I'm 49 years old but to me my home is 5243 Lynn Creek Rd, Lavalette WV.

Why?

That's where I grew up and where my parents still live.

He who loves God and keeps His commandments is said to dwell in God. He has made the Lord his dwelling place and abides in holy familiarity with God.

For the Christian this world is not our home.

The focus of the child of God is to love his home

Illustration:

Suppose you had a child that said, "I hate home. I hate the rules, the restraints, and the responsibilities. I do not care about you and I am leaving home, but I will come back every week and I expect you to give me whatever I want." I am sure most of us would say, "If you do not remain here, do not expect me to supply you anything. If you are so rebellious, so uncaring, and so unloving that you do not want to stay with me, then I cannot promise you a thing." Well, friends, that is how it is with God. When we dwell in Him and He is us, He gives us what we desire.

***Psalm 37:4***

*<sup>4</sup> Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.*

Our focus must be on dwelling in God and He is us!

Note not only of Focus but also:

## B. Our Fellowship

### **Romans 8:14-17**

<sup>14</sup> For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. <sup>15</sup> For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. <sup>16</sup> The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: <sup>17</sup> And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

### **1 John 3:24**

<sup>24</sup> And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

We must walk in fellowship with the Lord.

When we walk in fellowship we will pray according to His will and He will make us into what He desires us to be.

He will guide our steps, govern our stops and help us pray in the will of God.

Close:

Are we praying in obedience by faith walking in fellowship with Him?