

# Relentless

Day 15



## Today's Passage

12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

**1st John 5:12-15 NIV**

## Today's Thought

The second requirement for effective prayer is for the believer to make a request that is in the will of God. Jesus Christ taught his disciples to pray, "Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven" (Mat. 6:10). In order for God to grant a prayer request, it must be in his will. "And this is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us" (1 John 5:14).

Generally, the believer can know God's will through the Bible because it contains principles and guidelines that apply to everyone. Yet, the Bible does not specifically reveal God's will for every situation. Thus, the believer must pray relying on the Holy Spirit to give him wisdom to know the will of God. However, there will be times when the believer will be confronted with a situation where he does not know God's will, perhaps because God has not chosen to reveal his will or the believer has not yet learned to discern the voice of God.

The believer can ask God for his needs and even for the desires of his heart. However, the believer should be sensitive to the Holy Spirit because it might not be God's will to grant his request. God did not answer Elijah's prayer request for God to kill him after he fled from Jezebel (1 Kings 19:4). Shortly thereafter, Elijah was taken to heaven in an angelic chariot (2 Kings 2:11-12). After this incredible experience, having never tasted death, Elijah was probably glad that God did not grant his earlier request. Likewise, the believer may feel that God should grant a particular prayer request, but he may not understand God's reason for not granting it until he gets to heaven. The believer must learn to wait and be patient for God to answer his prayers. The believer must realize that God's timetable in granting a request can be different from his timetable.