

Spiritual Eyesight with Insight

The Power of Focused Prayer

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth" (Psalm 121:1-2).

King David knew that his help came from above, that is why he set his spiritual eyesight on the Lord. Likewise, we too must cast our vision upon the Lord in focused prayer, and present to Him specific needs according to His divine will.

Focused Prayer: This entails targeting specific needs in prayer that special attention is given to. In the context used here, the word *focus* means *"to cause to be concentrated; a center of activity, attraction, or attention."* In effective, focused prayer it is important to identify the need(s) and to be specific, in accordance to God's purpose and will.

In Mark 10:46-52, Blind Bartimaeus prayed an unspecific (general) prayer, *"Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me."* He cried unto Jesus. However, there are many mercies in the Bible, so Jesus then asked him what he specifically wanted. In reply, Bartimaeus answered, *"Lord, that I might receive my sight."* He now spoke specifically, and Jesus granted his request! God wants us to have spiritual "eyesight with insight" and at times to render focused prayer that is specific. In doing so, such prayer should be accompanied with an expectant heart and unwavering faith, as we focus on the Problem Solver and not the problem.

Years ago, when I was a college student, I purchased a \$60 Bible study chart as I endeavored to teach Bible studies to reach souls on campus and abroad. Shortly thereafter, I met a less financially fortunate couple at a fellowship event who were new to the church and just beginning in ministry. The Lord spoke to me to give away my Bible Study chart to this couple. I focused in on prayer later that God would somehow replace this chart with another one, or with funds to buy it. The very next day, my non-apostolic brother came to visit. He was not aware that I had given away my chart. While departing from his stay, he suddenly turned back around and gave me \$60 as a gift. Wow! God had answered my focused prayer! Prayer works!

By looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith the eyes of our understanding will be enlightened. *"To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary"* (Psalm 63:2). As we experience the power of focused prayer when we lift up specific needs to Him, greater than ever, God will give us spiritual eyesight with insight, and do great things!

Flo Shaw
Director
World Network of Prayer