

The Prayer to Receive Answers (John 15:1-7)

We are truly thankful for the fact that God has gathered us to give worship. May it be the most blessed day to which God blesses you and answers you. Today's message is entitled The Prayer to Receive Answers. This is a very important question. How can you receive answers? It's not only that but how can you receive continuous answers? All the biblical figures received continuous answers. That answer is recorded in today's bible passage. If you do according to the words of Jesus you will receive eternal and continuous answers. May you uncover and examine yourself to determine where you lack to receive continuous answers. May you hold to that as your own prayer topic and pray before God. If that is your prayer topic that you firmly hold to and continuously pray that will absolutely be fulfilled in your life. It is possible and it is not difficult. As you continuously receive the messages it is all the same. There are many figures in the bible that records them receiving continuous and everlasting answers. For example, Joseph lived according to the principle to which he received eternal answers. For Moses, he lived a life of miracles because he lived according to the same principle. For Apostle Paul he received continuous answers to the extent that he was able to overturn the history of the world. To say that there is a figure like Apostle Paul is quite difficult to find in the present time. Of course, there are many individuals who played a pivotal role within church history. However, there are a few people who were able to change the history of the world. That is why the principle is the same. So may you examine yourself and see where you stand and may you hold to the covenant as you take the next step. Especially for the remnants there are lots of opportunities and leisure for you so take your time as you hold onto this as your covenant and pray. We are coming to an end within this year. It is a time of hope as we look forward to the upcoming year. I do believe it will be a meaningful time if you are able to sincerely stand before the Lord. Of course, everyday is the same. The sun rises and the sun sets. However, the last day of the year and first day of the year is very meaningful. May it be the blessed time in which you are thankful for all the answers that are given to you throughout the year and be hopeful for what is to come for the upcoming year. Of course, throughout the year you may face problems, incidents, and mistakes as well. However, may it be a time for you to look upon yourself and renew yourself and discover the reason why you went through that. The God that you believe in is almighty so it is a new start for all the believers. Of course, for all the believers they have their own set of problems that they face however, in the midst of that it will all become an opportunity. That is why in the midst of your difficulties may you have hope in the Lord. This is what it states in Romans 5:3-4, "Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance. And endurance produces character, and character produces hope." This is the conclusion of Apostle Paul's life. Romans 8:28 is a well known scripture. "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." In the midst of all the difficulties and the hardships that

you may face, it will all be turned to God's blessing. Of course, as you take a look back at your life there were difficulties and sufferings that you went through however, it was all overturned into blessings. This is what it records in 1 Corinthians 10:13, "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it." As we come to a closing of this year these are the words that you must take a look upon yourself in Christ. Throughout this year may you take a look at yourself and truly be able to have hope in the Lord. Next year is the twentieth year of the foundation of this church. In the next year of November it will be the twentieth year of our church. Of course, for those who have pioneered this church from the very beginning it will be a very meaningful time for them. Also, it must be a thankful and blessed day for all of us who have joined this church along the way. Through our session board meeting we discussed the topic of making this day the day to celebrate missions. Every year in January we will celebrate Latin America Lord's Day and then in November we will observe that as our church mission conference. Church officer, regional church, and the remnants are the words we will hold to as the theme for next year. I do believe great and important answers will be given to us next year.

1. The Prayer that Receives Answers

The first point we'll look at is "The Prayer that Receives Answers." Jesus spoke about the important way for us to receive answers. He concludes in Verse 7: "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you." It is such a renowned word. It says that "If you abide in me, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done." These are words everyone wants to be fulfilled upon themselves. As for myself, when I was reading these scriptures, I always thought to myself, "I wish it was fulfilled. What can I do?" However, the condition is "if you abide in me, and if my words abide in you." And of course in the past, I questioned, "How is it possible that I abide in Him, and His word abides in me?" And if this takes place, I will be able to receive continuous answers, but how can it? And answers themselves are very important and precious, but you must receive answers to stand as a witness. Yet, the method and the principle are stated from Verse 1 to 6. And Jesus makes the fundamental proclamation in Verse 1. He said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser." You must be the branch of the vine in order for the Lord to take care of you. In Verse 2, it states, "Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit." And of course, fundamentally, in Verse 2, it speaks of branches that do not bear fruit. God has no choice but to cut it away because they are the ones that have not yet received salvation. In order for them to bear more fruit, what does the Lord do? He allows them to be clean. So, the reason why you must be clean is so that God will continuously give answers. When you think of clean, what is the next thing that comes to mind? You think of what is unclean. It is speaking of ethics. Humanism is in-

cluded as well. Of course, those that are unclean are because they are being deceived by Satan. And they fall into religious lifestyles. There are believers who live a religious life and are unclean at the same time. Of course, they are the subjects that must be clean. However, the outer appearance is secondary. And it is to say that that is not fundamental. It is merely secondary. Then what is the fundamental way for them to be clean? Rightfully it is to have faith in Christ and confess Christ. It is because all answers are contained inside Christ. That is how you will be clean. If so, you will be cleaner than before. That is why the Lord said, "If you have faith in Christ and confess Christ, I will make you clean. Of course, within your sins, humanistic ways, and religious lifestyle, when you are continuously confessing Jesus Christ, He is the one that will make you clean from what is unclean. That is why, in Verse 3, the Lord says, "Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you." That is why the only method for you to be clean is only by the word of Jesus Christ. Of course, it is only the word of Christ that makes you clean. Nothing else in this world can ever make you clean. And Verse 4 and 5 talks about the same content: "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me." So, the Lord says, "Abide in me, and I in you." And the condition in Verse 7 is that "when you abide in me, and my word abides in you." And for the Lord to be in you and the word to be in you is the same thing. Then, He emphasizes it in Verse 5. He says, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If the branches do not abide, there are no fruits to bear. And whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit." And in conclusion, what does He say? Verse 7 is the conclusion, and Verse 1 to 6 are merely the fundamentals for you to receive answers. And the conclusion is, "If you are in Christ and Christ is inside of you, then whatever you wish for will be done." You are the branch. That is why it is important for the branch to abide in the vine. Likewise, you must be able to abide in Jesus Christ. Then, everything else will take place for you. So, the next question is: How can the branch abide in the vine? There are many explanations, but let me simplify it into two things for you. First of all, it is to have faith in Him. When you have faith in Him, the branch will be able to abide in the vine. You will be the one that is saved by God. You will receive salvation when you have faith in Him. Let's take a look at Verse 6. "If anyone does not abide in me." He is saying, "If the branch does not abide in the vine." Then, of course, there is no salvation. It is just as if the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. That is why you must first receive salvation and abide in the true vine, which is Jesus Christ. That is how you will be able to escape hell, but that doesn't mean everything will be done for you when you pray. Of course, anyone is able to say that they have received salvation and am able to pray to which the Lord answers to them. There are cases in which people fall into problems, pray, but do not receive answers to prayer. That means that there is another extent in which you will abide in Him and He will abide in you after you have received salvation. These words are not only spoken as the words of Jesus, at the time, but are a prophecy in the Old testament to which it follows the same principles that were re-

minded to His disciples. What is the other method to which you are able to abide with Jesus Christ? There are many other methods to which it can be explained in the theological perspective, but in simple terms, it is to connect with God's thoughts. There are tons of believers that live a life that are not connected to God's thoughts even though they are saved. God is taking the right direction, and yet they are taking the left direction. God is taking the right direction, however they are somehow going in the wrong direction to which they are not aligned with God. However, many people need so many answers so they fervently pray. And of course, many people want answers so it is difficult for them and God as well. God loves you and wants to give you the answers, but you are fervently praying rather than holding onto the answer. As much as it is difficult for God, it is God who came down and was able to save His own people, but is not able to give them the answers. There was a woman who went through so much difficulties in her life to which her face was burnt. Many were not able to look at her because of her burn scars. She would always be in tears asking God why she let this take place. One day she received answers. God responded saying, "I am more sad than you are." She knit-picked with God and questioned how God could be more sad than she is right now. The Lord said, "There is a work that I desire to do through you through your face that is burned." The Lord gave the message instead, "My heart is not that I wanted you to be like that, but I will use you because you are like that." That is why the Lord said that he was more sad than she was. That was when she could start to go around showing her true face before others. This is the heart of God. The Lord says, "Why do you take the incorrect path? When you go down the correct path, I could give you all of the answers." The Lord has to ponder whether or not He should answer you because you are not in the place where He desires you to be. I do believe this is the heart of God. I do believe that you will receive the answer from the Word, just like the woman who had the scarred face, after you experience what she went through and are in the state of letting everything down before the Lord. But just like many of you, you don't fervently pray to receive answers. Many times, we face many problems, but brush it off to the side because you don't care about receiving answers. Many of you may not be as brazen-faced and knit-pick before the Lord, asking why He does not give answers, but simply cover it up and continue with your lives. The trait for those who were able to conquer the world and be able to receive the historic answer of the age is that they were able to connect with God's thoughts. That means the doors and path to receive answers will be opened. One day, Moses received the Word of God. his life in the past was not incorrect. He knew the Gospel very well, to the point in which he recorded the book of Genesis. His mother played an important role, but he did not receive much answer to his life. One day, the Lord calls him to give him the Word, and this is not the average answer. His thoughts were wandering and lost, but the moment he received the Word, his heart and thoughts were fixated on that to which he aligned himself to God's direction. You must be able to connect to God's desire. God's desire must be your desire and God's thoughts must be your thoughts. From there, you need to be aligned to his direction to

which there is no conflict between you and God. You will be able to receive continuous answers to which there is no disbelief or complaints before the Lord. You believe in Him. Why do you believe in Him? Do you believe in salvation? For myself and for everyone else, you believe from the start and discover how tremendous this faith is. After receiving salvation, your thoughts must align to His thoughts. 237, healing, summit, and world evangelization. You must go hand-in-hand with the pulpit messages and head quarter messages. You must be aligned to His desire and thoughts for He has commanded world evangelization. You must be able to raise the disciples and stand as a witness to which the works of healing will arise. Devote yourself for the sake of Remnants and stake your life to the 237 nations. Then you will be the branch that abides to the vine. The fundamental way to abide with Jesus Christ is to have faith in him. AND the way for this is to align your thoughts to His. If you have faith in Him, but you are not able to connect to His desire, then you will be swayed. Yet, Jesus promised. Ask whatever you desire, and you shall receive. May we live this life as well. It is so easy, yet it is quite difficult for us. That is why you need to bind the work of Satan. And every single day, you must be in thanksgiving and in tears for the salvation He has given you, but it is Satan who hinders and attacks you. That is why you need to bind Satan with the name of Jesus Christ. Reverend Lee leads the Friday service prayer, and at that time, he confesses Christ three times. Every single time, before we begin to pray, he confesses Christ three times. He doesn't just simply confess it. He confesses, "Lord, at this very moment, let it be only Christ. Let it be only Christ who is at work to demolish what needs to be demolished within my family. Lord, it is my only desire of world evangelization, so let it be only Christ." I must go to the very end of Latin America, so let it be only Christ. That is who Christ is." We must all do this. I bless you all in the name of the Lord that your life will be completely, 100% aligned to God's desire.

2. The Covenant Prayer

The second point is "The Covenant Prayer." It is the covenant prayer in which you are praying for God's desire. Of course, God's word and desire is written in the Bible in which that is the covenant. Of course, it is God's desire for that covenant to be fulfilled on earth. It is God's desire for His desire to be fulfilled on earth. In our language, it is simplified as 237, healing, and summit. The last word God has spoken was the resurrection message. The last sermon He gave was Mount of Olives. This is the covenant prayer you must hold onto. This is your covenant. In the name of Jesus Christ, you must pray in his name. You must pray inside of his name. You must first and foremost confess the name that Jesus is the Christ. We have summarized this so that we are able to hold onto the covenant during prayer and that is the covenant prayer of our church. There is the covenantal prayer that our church emphasizes, but the covenant prayer that I speak of right now is the covenantal prayer that anyone can do. All mankind must have the covenant. Fundamentally, Christ must be your covenant. Inside of Christ, you must receive the specific covenant He has prepared for you every day. That must personally become

your own covenant inside of you. For Joseph, his dreams were his own personal covenant. For Moses, on Mount Harrah, he received his personal covenant. For Apostle Paul, the moment he met Jesus was the time where he was able to receive his personal everlasting covenant. Those who hold to the covenant will live according to the covenant. They have no choice but to pray according to the covenant. They will be one with the covenant. Just like the branch abides with the vine, they will be one with the covenant. The covenant will become your life. For those who hold to the covenant, naturally, they will be the ones who abide with the vine, like the branch. Naturally, they will be able to connect with God's desires and thoughts. You must be one with God's desires and thoughts. From then on, 24 hours will come to you. Before 24 hours take place, if you are able to align and connect with God's desires and thoughts, you will receive many answers. You receive tremendous answers just by simply holding to the covenant of Jesus Christ. Of course, you will receive tremendous answers if you are able to align your life to God's direction. For 24 hours, you hold to this as your covenant within prayer, what will happen? 25 hours will naturally take place upon you. If you simply pray for 25 hours to come upon you, evil spirits will be at work. From the onset, I have explained the principle to you. This covenant must be living within you. If it is not living within you, what will happen? You have no choice but to cling to prayer. Why is that the case? You are facing problems and need a solution. Of course, it is wrong to say prayer itself is wrong, however, your prayers must be centered on the covenant. From then on, your prayer will no longer wander. If you give prayers that do not hold onto the covenant, the prayer has no choice but to wander. At that time, it is very difficult for you to realize it. When the covenant comes inside of you, you will come to realize that your past prayers were wandering. When you hold to the covenant, you will be able to give the prayer centered on the covenant. You have no choice but to face problems, and you are busy, that is why you fervently pray before God without the covenant. The moment you are able to restore the covenant inside of your prayer, it is centered on the covenant. The next thing that must take place is concentration. If God gives you the grace of concentration, you will naturally be within 24 hours. Then, 25 hours is bound to take place upon you. I do believe that today's passage speaks of this. The Lord says that we must abide with him, or you will not bear many fruits. If you abide in Him, ask whatever you wish and it will be done for you. What does it mean to abide with Him? You must have fundamental faith in him. Your thoughts and desires must connect with His thoughts and desires. Naturally, your direction must be aligned to His. Ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you, for He is almighty. May this tremendous blessing be upon you for the remainder of this year and next year. May you truly look upon yourself through the perspective of the covenant as well as prayer in the state that you are in right now. Naturally, you will uncover the prayer you must give to God. Of course, we are all different and it will be different for all of us. May you hold to the covenant of Christ to the extent that you will be the one that asks whatever you wish and it will be done for you.