

I. INTRODUCTION

II. HOW DOES PRAYER RELATE TO THE CHRISTIAN LIFE?

A. *Prayer Must be According to His Will*

B. *God's Commandments are Not Burdensome*

C. *We need to have continued Faith in Christ's Name*

D. *God Will Answer Prayer, However, We Do Not Know When*

III. CONCLUSION

**Review:**

**Secret #1: The Christian life is a miracle of resurrection.**

**Secret #2: The Christian life is a miracle of transformation.**

**Secret #3: The Christian life is coming to be in experience what we already are in our innermost being.**

**Secret #4: The Christian life is lived with our hearts open to God's truth.**

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1. How can we know what God's will is?

The only way we can know His will is by studying His Word, e.g., I John 5:2-3.

2. How do we know if we love the children of God (our brothers)?

If we obey God's commandments, we can be certain that we love His children, I John 5:2-3.

3. How do we know if we love God?

If we keep (obey) God's commandments, we can be certain that we love Him, I John 5:3a.

4. Verse 3 indicates that His commandments are not burdensome, what does John tell us about believers in verses 4-5 that begins to explain this?

That believers overcame the world when they believed in Jesus' name for eternal life.

5. What is the victory that has overcome the world?

Our faith. When we believe in Christ's name for eternal life, the world/Satan suffers a defeat, I John 5:4-5.

6. Verses 5-12 are written about how we can know we have eternal life, for what purpose did John write this (v 13)?

So that believers will continue to believe in the power of Jesus' name, knowing that they have believed in the power of that name for eternal life.

7. How does continuing to believe in the name of the Son of God relate to prayer?

John challenges the believer who knows he has eternal life by faith in Jesus' name to continue to believe in the power of that name as he/she prays, I John 5:13-15.

8. How does this relate to the idea of His commandments not being burdensome?

If we trust in the power of Jesus' name during prayer and if we pray *according to His will*, we can be sure that God will grant our requests, I John 5:13-15. And if so, then we can ask God for the power to keep His commandments knowing that He will grant this request.

9. What is God's will regarding how we live (v 2-3)?

To love Him and His children, which is done by keeping His commandments, I John 5:2-3.

10. Can we expect that God will immediately grant us victory in whatever areas we pray about (v 15)?

No. Although our prayers are granted when we pray *according to His will*, the timing of God's answer to our requests is not given, I John 5:14-15.

**Secret #4: The Christian life is an answer to our prayers.**