

## Prayers that God Answers

1 John 5:14,15

- I. We can have confidence in prayer when we pray according to God's will (1 John 5:14).
  - A. We can approach God confidently as we pray – because we believe in His Son (1 John 5:14a).
    - *The confidence we have* (= “in His name” 5:13; John 14:12-14; 16:23-27)
  - B. We can be confident that God hears prayers that are according to His will (5:14b; 1 John 3:21).
    - *According to His will* = praying for that which we know is His will (obedience). So praying according to God's will really means to pray for God's help to obey. We just need help in doing it.
    - *God cares about our personal needs and meets them too. It's just that we need to focus on asking for “His righteousness” and then those things are taken care of also (Matthew 6:31-33).*
- II. We can have answers to prayer when we ask for the things that we know God wants (1 John 5:15).
  - God is not promising that we will instantly be able to fully know and do His will. But when our goal is to please Him, God will begin a process of working in our life so that we can indeed obediently do His will.