

THE POWER OF PRAYING TOGETHER

When God's people pray together, the heavens move.

These quotations by Ellen White will inspire you to experience the miracle of united prayer for yourself.

1. "We are encouraged to pray for success, with the divine assurance that our prayers will be heard and answered. 'If two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father which is in Heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them' (Matt. 18:19, 20). 'Ask of Me, and I will answer your requests.'
"The promise is made on condition that the united prayers of the church are offered, and in answer to these prayers there may be expected a power greater than that which comes in answer to private prayer. The power given will be proportionate to the unity of the members and their love of God and for one another." (*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 9, p. 303)
2. "Our Savior follows His lessons of instruction with a promise that if two or three should be united in asking anything of God it should be given them. Christ here shows that there must be union with others, even in our desires for a given object. Great importance is attached to the united prayer, the union of purpose. God hears the prayers of individuals, but on this occasion Jesus was giving especial and important lessons that were to have a special bearing upon His newly organized church on the earth. There must be an agreement in the things which they desire and for which they pray. It was not merely the thoughts and exercises of one mind, liable to deception; but the petition was to be the earnest desire of several minds centered on the same point." (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, p. 429)
3. "It is in the order of God that those who bear responsibilities should often meet together to counsel with one another, and to pray earnestly for that wisdom which He alone can impart. **Unitedly** make known your troubles to God. **Talk less;** much precious time is lost in talk that brings no light. **Let brethren unite in fasting and prayer** for the wisdom that God has promised to supply liberally." (*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 499)
4. "A chain of earnest, praying believers should encircle the world. Let all pray in humility. A few neighbors may meet together to pray for the Holy Spirit. Let those who can not leave home, gather in their children, and unite in learning to pray together. They may claim the promise of the Savior: **'Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them'** (Matt. 18:20)." (*Review and Herald*, January 3, 1907)
5. "If we would accomplish the great work before us, it is essential that we present to God fervent and effectual prayer; for it availeth much. The prayer needed at this time is the earnest, unbroken, continuous prayer, not fitful, uncertain prayers, wavering as the waves of the sea. If several should meet together with one accord, with hearts burdened for perishing souls, and should offer earnest, fervent prayers, they would prove effectual." (*Review and Herald*, Aug. 23, 1892)
6. "The Lord has promised that where two or three are met together in His name, there will He be in the midst. Those who meet together for prayer, will receive an unction from the Holy One. There is great need of secret prayer, but there is also need of several Christians meeting together, to unite with earnestness their petitions to God. In these small companies Jesus is present, and the love of souls is deepened in the heart, and the Spirit puts forth His mighty energies, that human agents may be exercised in regard to saving those who are lost." (*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 8, p. 190)

7. "There is nothing more needed in the work than the practical results of communion with God. **We should hold convocations for prayer**, asking the Lord to open the way for the truth to enter the strongholds where Satan has set up his throne, and dispel the shadow he has cast athwart the pathway of those whom he is seeking to deceive and destroy. We have the assurance, '**The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much**' (James 5:16)." (*In Heavenly Places*, p. 93)
8. "God would work mightily for His people today if they would place themselves wholly under His guidance. They need the constant abiding of the Holy Spirit. If there were more prayer in the councils of those bearing responsibilities, more humbling of the heart before God, we should see abundant evidence of divine leadership, and our work would make rapid progress." (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, p. 238)
9. "Solicit prayer for the souls for whom you labor; present them before the church as subjects for their supplication. It will be just what the members of the church need, to have their minds called from their petty difficulties, to feel a great burden, a personal interest, for a soul that is ready to perish. Select another and still another soul, daily seeking guidance from God, laying every thing before Him in earnest prayer, and working in divine wisdom. As you do this, God will give you the Holy Spirit to convict and convert the soul." (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, pp. 80, 81)
10. "Why do not believers feel a deeper, more earnest concern for those who are out of Christ? Why do not two or three meet together and plead with God for the salvation of some special one, and then for still another?" (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 7, p. 21)
11. "We must be much in prayer if we would make progress in the divine life. When the message of truth was first proclaimed, how much we prayed. How often was the voice of intercession heard in the chamber, in the barn, in the orchard, or the grove. **Frequently we spent hours in earnest prayer, two or three together claiming the promise**; often the sound of weeping was heard and then the voice of thanksgiving and the song of praise. **Now the day of God is nearer than when we first believed, and we should be more earnest, more zealous, and fervent than in those early days**. Our perils are greater now than then. Souls are more hardened. We need now to be imbued with the Spirit of Christ, and we should not rest until we receive it." (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, pp. 161, 162)
12. "If the people of God would only exercise faith, He would work in a wonderful manner to accomplish this work. Hear the words of Christ: 'If two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father which is in heaven.' Precious promise! Do we believe it? **What marvelous results would appear if the united prayers of this company were to ascend to God in living faith!** Jesus stands ready to take these petitions and present them to His Father, saying, 'I know these persons by name. Send answers to their prayers; for I have graven their names on the palms of My hands.'" (*Evangelism*, p. 414)
13. "Brethren should stand shoulder to shoulder, uniting their prayers at the throne of grace, that they may move the arm of the Omnipotent. Heaven and earth will then be closely connected in the work, and there will be joy and gladness in the presence of the angels of God, when the lost sheep is found and restored." (*Fundamentals of Christian Education*, p. 210)
14. "In every church there should be stated seasons for united prayer for the advancement of this work. Let all be united, having a specific object for their faith and entreaties." (*Historical Sketches*, p. 294)

15. "In all our councils, all our plans for the advancement of His cause, the upbuilding of His kingdom, **God desires that we rely entirely upon His power**, knowing that it is indispensable to success. How can we honor God, how can we vindicate His Word, unless we are much in prayer, appealing to Him to manifest His power in behalf of the perishing?" (*Review and Herald*, Aug. 23, 1892)
16. "When two or three are met together to unite their counsel, and to send up their petitions, the promise is for them: 'Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you' (Luke 11:9). 'If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?' (verse 13). The Lord has promised that where two or three are met together in His name, there will He be in the midst. Those who meet together for prayer will receive an unction from the Holy One." (*Ye Shall Receive Power*, p. 161)
17. "The time has come for a thorough reformation to take place. When this reformation begins, the spirit of prayer will actuate every believer and will banish from the church the spirit of discord and strife. Those who have not been living in Christian fellowship will draw close to one another. One member working in right lines will lead other members to unite with him in making intercession for the revelation of the Holy Spirit. There will be no confusion, because all will be in harmony with the mind of the Spirit." (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, p. 251)
18. "I asked the angel why there was no more faith and power in Israel. He said, '**Ye let go of the arm of the Lord too soon. Press your petitions to the throne, and hold on by strong faith.**'" (*Early Writings*, p. 73)
19. "There are many who long to help others, but they feel that they have no spiritual strength or light to impart. Let them present their petitions at the throne of grace. Plead for the Holy Spirit. God stands back of every promise He has made. With your Bible in your hands say, I have done as Thou hast said. I present Thy promise, 'Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.'" (*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 147)
20. "He longs to have you reach after Him by faith. **He longs to have you expect great things from Him.** He longs to give you understanding in temporal as well as in spiritual matters." (*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 146)