**1 Peter 5:6-7 (NKJV)**

**6Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7casting all your cares upon Him for He cares for you!**

“Dear God, help me to get this today! Help me get that today! God, I need this right now and if I don’t get it, then maybe you really aren’t real! Show me something!”

How does that sound for a prayer? So when you look at the words closely in this prayer what do you notice? Do some things stand out to you that should NOT be there? I bet you can find that everything about that prayer is totally wrong! Let’s point out that many pray this prayer or something similar especially when they find themselves in dire situations. God in His Infinite Wisdom and Power simply tunes out and turns away. It is scary to think that such a Loving and Merciful God would do such a thing! Some would even find what I just said to be insulting! It is the truth though and remember, I am Unashamed to bring the truth!

Let’s examine this prayer a little more closely and discover all the things that would get a prayer like this tossed out like the weekly circular papers we get in the mail box. First, we see that there is no reverence or praise and worship to God whatsoever! A prayer like this will not make it to Gods ear! In fact, that prayer makes the ceiling turn to brass (old school)! How is our countenance when we come before God? Remember, we are obtaining permission to come into the very presence of God! He is Almighty! The Creator of ALL things! Let’s show Him the respect He deserves! We do this by being Humble. Verse 6 clearly explains in the beginning to humble ourselves. You want a prayer that will work? Then follow what this scripture is saying the way it is written. We get our hearts and mind in a humble place then we realize who we are petitioning to. I cannot stress the importance of the realization of who you are trying to speak to! Remember, He is God! You are going to see me say that often! His Might! His Power! His Authority! HE IS! He is also He who can change things in your life! As the verse continues, He will exalt you in due time. Let us define the word exalt. According to the *Mariam-Webster Dictionary,* the word “exalt” has a few definitions in which we understand exalt to mean, “to raise to a higher level,” to “praise someone highly,” or to “to present in a way that is very favorable or too favorable.”

Dare I think that we should re-learn the things of yester years and recycle some of their ways into modern day thinking when we are attempting to gain an audience with our Heavenly Father. For instance, think of how biblical days when King David was alive, how did the people react when in his presence? If it were a king who was full of pride and arrogance such as king Nebuchadnezzar, that if you stepped out of line and didn’t answer what he wanted to know or do what he wanted, the consequences were undesirable for you and your family. Now, take a King who is mightier than they were, a King who is high above everything that you can comprehend and even higher on levels we can’t comprehend and all because we can’t see Him, but we know He is there, and we act a fool! The one King who clearly expresses His love for us… daily without fail, and we are not satisfied! The King of all Kings who can simply say the Words and we no longer exist! The King who delivers us from our trials and scary moments! The King who places at the head in due time and we think it is our own doing! He is still God!!!

So we now understand that when we are ready to petition the King of kings we must:

1. Prepare our humble spirit before we engage in prayer
2. Understand who we are talking to
3. Understand that in Due Time, He will exalt us!

There are so much more to this in regards to prayer so we will take the next few weeks to totally get in tune with God.

It is very important to take the grateful attitude and realize that in due time, God will exalt us. The Key word is, “due!” He is God!!! He can do what He wishes and His wish is to exalt us if we are exalting Him above all things! Not to become bigger than He is or to let our minds open the doorway to the enemy to deceive us, but to receive what God promises in His Word that He will do! He is God!!! He stands by His Word! His Word never fails and sure isn’t time specific! Take comfort in the fact that trouble don’t last, because God will deliver!

Verse 7 is simple to understand; He cares for you! What more can be said? God cares about us! Feeling discouraged? He cares! Feeling lonely? He cares! Hungry? He cares! Sick? He cares, and heals! Tempted? He cares and delivers! Angry? He cares and calms the savage beast within! He calms the storms that rain over our lives! He loosens the chains that bind us to our pain and struggles! When addiction binds us to its deadly influence, He cares to release us from its poisonous grasp! Because He cares!

To care for someone means to look after and provide for their needs. That’s who we have in our Heavenly Father! Don’t make this simple statement out to be more complex than it needs to be, simply put, God cares for us! When we submit to God and what He will do for us, then we understand how to be when we ask Him to come into His presence. Then such a prayer as positioned in the beginning will no longer exist in our minds. We begin to pray from our hearts with the sincerity and humble respect for God, understanding more of who He is and How He is willing to work in those who come to Him and just simply, ask. So what are we waiting for?

Father,

You are God, there is none like you! We come to you with a grateful heart, understanding that You Are He who created the Heavens and the earth, and all things between and beyond! You are a Merciful, Mighty God who takes away the sin of the world and gives us an eternal life with You in Heaven! Now Father teach us your ways that we may follow and be welcomed into your presence. Continue to pour out your Spirit on those that choose you to live for and may your Spirit draw in those that are seeking for a Savior! May we be fulfilled and sustained by your sufficiency and understand that it is all according to your plan and in due time we will reap if we faint not. Lead and guide us daily to walk in the light and be in turn a light that shines for You for others to see. Destroy our flesh and renew our lives to be identified as Your very own! We pray this prayer in Jesus name,

Amen!