

# Prayer—Trusting Father Knows Best

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**By Dave Havir**

BIG SANDY, Texas—On June 12, I started a seven-part series about prayer. Today is part seven.

- Part 1—Talking to a Perfect Father
- Part 2—Faith and God’s Will
- Part 3—God Told Moses and David “No”
- Part 4—God Told Paul “No.”
- Part 5—God Often Says “Yes”
- Part 6—Examples of Persistence
- Part 7—Trusting Father Knows Best

## **Importance of trust**

It is no secret that trust is a foundational key in every relationship on earth. Does it surprise you that trust is vital in our relationship with our heavenly Father?

The apostle Paul said it well in his second letter in the Bible addressed to the Corinthians.

*2 Corinthians 1:9-10*—“Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead, who delivered us from so great a death, and does deliver us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver us.”

At the conclusion of the article in this series titled “Faith and God’s Will,” I mentioned that I would talk about two sections of Scripture in an upcoming article. Today is that day to discuss those sections.

## **Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego**

*Daniel 2:49*—“Also Daniel petitioned the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego over the affairs of the province of Babylon; but Daniel sat in the gate of the king.”

*Daniel 3:4-6*—“Then a herald cried aloud: ‘To you it is commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, that at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, you shall fall down and worship the gold image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up;

and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.' "

*Daniel 3:12*—"There are certain Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego; these men, O king, have not paid due regard to you. They do not serve your gods or worship the gold image which you have set up."

*Daniel 3:14*—"Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them, 'Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up?' "

*Daniel 3:17-18*—"If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."

### **Son of God**

*Matthew 26:36-38*—"Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, 'Sit here while I go and pray over there.' And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, 'My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.' "

*Matthew 26:39*—"He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, 'O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.' "

*Matthew 26:42*—"Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, 'O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.' "

*Matthew 26:44*—"So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words."

*Luke 22:43-44*—"Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground."