

Five Smooth Stones of Prayer

Hymns from "Favorite Hymns of Grace."

Greeting and Opening Prayer

Hymns of Worship

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Devotional Summary: "David's Five Smooth Stones"

1Samuel 17:40 (KJV) And he *[David]* took his staff in his hand, and chose *[intentionally selected, not randomly or blindly]* him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip *[a pouch]*; and his sling was in his hand *[David came prepared!]*: and he drew near to the Philistine. *[no fear - faith - "substance (confidence) of things hoped for, evidence (assurance) of things not seen" - Heb 11:1]* 41 And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David; and the man that bare the shield went before him. 42 And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he despised him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance. 43 And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. 44 And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field. 45 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. 46 This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel *[Ah-ha! Here is David's motive]*. 47 And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands *[David ultimately trusted in his Heavenly Father, not his sling]*. 48 ¶ And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. 49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth. 50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David. *["For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds." 2Co 10:4 "Its not by might, its not by power, but by my Spirit saith the Lord!" Zechariah 4:6]*

We can use David's five smooth stones as a metaphor for Five Components of Prayer:

1) Thanksgiving

Psalm 95:2 (KJV) Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.

Psalm 100:4 (KJV) Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

2) Praise

Ps 54:6 (KJV) I will *freely sacrifice* unto thee: I will praise thy name, O LORD; for it is good.

Heb 13:15 (KJV) By Him *[Jesus Christ]* therefore let us offer the *sacrifice of praise* to God

continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

3) Repentance

1John 1:8-9 (KJV) If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

4) Personal Petition - for you and yours

Philippians 4:6 (KJV) Be careful [*anxious, full of care*] for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Psalms 62:8 (KJV) Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us.

5) Intercession for others

James 5:16 (KJV) Pray ye one for another.

Ac 12:5-7 (KJV) Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him. 6 And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison. 7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, "Arise up quickly." And his chains fell off from his hands.

Continual Communion with Christ - faith rising out of David's on-going relationship with God killed Goliath - not the stones! (1Sam 17:46 & 47 above) This relationship with our Heavenly Father is the shoe-leather side of faith - **faithfulness in our walk with God!** Faith...the Key that unlocks the war-chest of God! ...and gives these five smooth stones of prayer their power.

1John 5:4 "...*this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.*" As David intentionally chose his five stones, in our prayer times let us intentionally include these five components in our communion with our Heavenly Father.

John 15:7 (KJV) If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 (KJV) Pray without ceasing.

James 1:5-7 (KJV) If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not [*without reproach*]; and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

Closing Hymn

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Prayer Requests and Corporate Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Recessional

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